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December 14, 2000

Box PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: New U.S. Patent Appln.
Our Ref: 381NT/49487

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of:

Kenji HORII; Yasutsugu YOSHIMURA; Tadashi NISHINO; Takashi KAMOSHITA;
Takayoshi TOMINO; Fuminori ISHIKAWA; Takao FUNAMOTO; Takashi MASHIKO;
Kenjiro NARITA; Jong-Keun KIM; Ki-Chol KIM; Jong-Sub LEE; Hwang-Kyu
HWANG; Jung-Sik LEE and Jin-Hee KIM

entitled: **METHOD OF BONDING METAL PLATES, APPARATUS THEREFOR AND HOT
STRIP MILL**

Enclosed are:

1. Specification, including 23 claims (51 pages).
2. 24 Sheets of X Formal drawings showing Figs. 1-7, 8a-b, 9a-b, 10a-b, 11a-b, 12-15, 16a-d, 17-20, 21a-b, 22a-b, 23a-c, 24 and 25.
3. X Declaration and Power of Attorney (**executed**).
4. Assignment of the invention to HITACHI, LTD., POHANG IRON & STEEL CO., LTD. AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY.
5. Priority is being claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119 and 37 C.F.R. §1.55 based on Priority Document Japanese Patent Application No. 11-345215, filed in Japan December 14, 1999, and Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-316522, filed in Japan October 17, 2000.
6. Preliminary Amendment
7. The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

Basic Fee			\$355/710 =	\$710.00
Total Claims	<u>46</u> - 20 = <u>26</u>	x	\$ 9/18 =	\$468.00
Independent Claims	<u>6</u> - 3 = <u>3</u>	x	\$40/80 =	\$240.00
Multiple Dependent Claim Presented			\$135/270 =	\$
Total Filing Fee				<u>\$1418.00</u>

Two checks in the amount of \$ 1,418.00 for the filing fee and \$ 40.00 for the assignment recording fee are enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #381NT/49487). A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Respectfully submitted,

Donald D. Evenson
Reg. No. 26,160

DDE:mkh